In the Claims

Please cancel claim 11, 12, 13 and 14.

Please add claims 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Please amend claims 8, 9, 10, and 15.

-- 1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A device comprising:
a set of opposite sliding members connected by a nut and threaded rod assembly, wherein the rotational motion of the threaded rod translates into a change in the relative position of said sliding members;
said nut and threaded rod assembly comprising:
a threaded rod connected to one of said sliding members,
a housing connected to the other of said sliding members, and
a pivotable nut connected to said housing, such that said nut [[~~, and the~~]] pivoting plane [[~~of said nut~~]] being orthogonal to the longitudinal axial plane of said threaded rod;
said nut having an internal thread and a contiguous round excision, resulting in the partial removal of the internal thread;

said nut having the center point of the imaginary circle projected by the partial internal thread and the pivoting point in the same geometric plane;
said nut having the diameter of said contiguous round excision larger than the diameter of said threaded rod, such that the pivoting motion of said nut disengaging the partial inner thread of said nut and the outer thread of said threaded rod, and enabling said sliding members of said device changing relative position without the rotational motion of said threaded rod;
said nut having radial preload, said radial preload realized by means of connecting a compression spring member between said nut and said housing;
said compression spring exerting a force on said nut, and said force on said nut being tangential to the arc described by the pivoting motion of said nut, and said radial preload engaging the threads of said nut and of said threaded rod with no mechanical play; and
said nut connected to said housing with no axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing; and said axial mechanical play referenced to the longitudinal axis of said threaded rod.

9. (Currently amended) The device of claim 8, wherein said nut connected to said housing with no axial mechanical play, having axial preload;
said axial preload realized by means of connecting a compression spring [[~~compressible~~]] member between said nut and said housing [[~~, said compressible member having spring properties~~]]; [[~~and~~]]
said compression spring [[~~said compressible member~~]] exerting a force on said nut, and said force on said nut being parallel to the longitudinal axis of said threaded rod, and said force on said nut eliminating [[~~resulting in the elimination of~~]] the axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing.

10, (Currently amended) The device of claim 8, wherein said nut fitted in said housing with no permissible axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing [[~~; and said axial mechanical play referenced to the axis of said threaded rod~~]].

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The device of claim 8 [[~~12~~]], wherein there is provided a plurality of said device concatenated with one another forming a multi-axis device.

16. (New) The device of claim 8, wherein there is provided means for pivoting said nut overcoming said radial preload, and enabling said sliding members of said device changing relative position without requiring the rotational motion of said threaded rod.

17. (New) A device comprising:
a nut and threaded rod assembly connecting a set of opposite sliding members, wherein the rotational motion of the threaded rod translates into a change in the relative position of said sliding members;
said nut and threaded rod assembly comprising:
a threaded rod connected to one of said sliding members,
a housing connected to the other of said sliding members,
a pivotable nut having full thread and connected to said housing, such that said nut pivoting plane being orthogonal to the longitudinal axial plane of said threaded rod, and
a compression spring member connected between said nut and said housing, and said compression spring action radial preloading said nut;

said radial preload tangential to the arc described by the pivoting motion of said nut, such that the engaging threads of said nut and of said threaded rod having no mechanical play; and
said nut connected to said housing with no axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing; and said axial mechanical play referenced to the longitudinal axis of said threaded rod.

18. (New) The device of claim 17, wherein said nut connected to said housing with no axial mechanical play, having axial preload;
said axial preload realized by means of connecting a compression spring member between said nut and said housing; said compression spring exerting a force on said nut parallel to the longitudinal axis of said threaded rod, and said force on said nut eliminating the axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing.

19, (New) The device of claim 17, wherein said nut fitted in said housing with no axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing.

20. (New) The device of claim 17, wherein there is provided a plurality of said device concatenated with one another forming a multi-axis device. --